

Health News Release

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State disciplines health care providers

OLYMPIA — The Washington State Department of Health has taken disciplinary actions or withdrawn charges against health care providers in our state.

The department's Health Systems Quality Assurance Division works with boards, commissions, and advisory committees to set licensing standards for more than 80 health care professions (e.g., medical doctors, nurses, counselors).

Information about health care providers is on the agency website. Click on "Look up a healthcare provider license" in the "How Do I?" section of the Department of Health website (doh.wa.gov). The site includes information about a health care provider's license status, the expiration and renewal date of their credential, disciplinary actions and copies of legal documents issued after July 1998. This information is also available by calling 360-236-4700. Consumers who think a health care provider acted unprofessionally are also encouraged to call and report their complaint.

Benton County

In June 2013 the Home Care Aide Program conditionally granted a home care aide credential to **Corey Gene Miller** (HM60314129) and ordered him to undergo evaluation for a substance abuse monitoring program. On his application, Miller said he'd never been convicted of an offense. In 2002 and again in 2011 he was convicted of driving while intoxicated.

In June 2013 the Health Care Assistant Program ended probation for health care assistant **Kayla Nicole Pieper** (HC60167991).

Cowlitz County

In July 2013 the Nursing Assistant Program conditionally granted a certified nursing assistant credential to **Melissa Ann Shaver** (NC60378978), who was convicted of driving while intoxicated in 2008 and again in 2012.

King County

In June 2013 the Nursing Assistant Program ended probation for registered and certified nursing assistant **Curtis D. Smith** (NA60200185, NC60241406).

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In June 2013 the Medical Commission entered an agreement with physician **Jerry N. Mixon** (MD00023643) that placed his credential on probation for at least five years. Mixon must complete an ethics course and pay a \$10,000 fine. He advertised the Longevity Medical Clinic, offering "comprehensive hormone supplementation" as an anti-aging remedy. He also treated patients who didn't have abnormally deficient hormonal levels and didn't do adequate tests, thus not meeting the standard of care. Mixon's treatments violated federal and state laws.

In June 2013 the Massage Program ended conditions on the credential of massage practitioner **Tricia Yoshimi Gilmore** (MA60335618), who may now practice without restrictions.

In July 2013 the Nursing Commission charged registered nurse **Jean Elizabeth Trost** (RN00079042) with unprofessional conduct. Trost allegedly administered Botox, Juvaderm and other prescription material to hundreds of patients without prescriptions from a qualified licensed provider while working at a spa from 2008 to 2013. Charges say the patients allegedly didn't get an initial consultation from a qualified licensed health care professional. An advanced registered nurse practitioner listed as the spa's medical director allegedly never went to the spa, didn't see any of the patients Trost treated, and didn't do any initial consultations. Trost also allegedly ordered items on the advanced registered nurse practitioner's accounts.

In July 2013 the Nursing Assistant Program charged certified nursing assistant **Divina Zabala** (NC10004646) with unprofessional conduct. The Department of Social and Health Services (DSHS) found she abused a vulnerable adult. DSHS also found she repeatedly restrained a patient in a wheelchair without orders to do so, and locked the patient in her bedroom. Zabala is not allowed to be employed in a job with access to vulnerable adults.

In July 2013 the Unlicensed Practice Program notified **Ismael Valdez-Rivera** of its intent to issue a cease-and-desist order. Valdez-Rivera allegedly provided massage treatment to a client despite having no massage credential.

In July 2013 the Dental Commission conditionally granted a dental assistant credential to **Amanda Marcella Charlson** (D160369817). In 2012 Charlson was convicted of driving while intoxicated, and fourth-degree assault.

Kitsap County

In June 2013 the Nursing Assistant Program charged certified nursing assistant **Maria Griffin**, also known as Ma Regina Braza Griffin and as Constance Griffin (NA10011515), with unprofessional conduct. Griffin allegedly accepted thousands of dollars from a patient with dementia. The Department of Social and Health Services won't allow her to be employed in a job with access to vulnerable adults.

Pierce County

In June 2013 the Chemical Dependency Professional Program conditionally granted a chemical dependency professional trainee credential to **Jarrod Lindale Nault** (CO60378554) and placed him on probation. Nault was convicted of three felonies and five gross misdemeanors from 1996 to 2008.

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In July 2013 the Nursing Assistant Program filed a corrected statement of charges against certified nursing assistant **Earnestine Neal** (NC10022228). Two words were added to the charges to clarify she allegedly falsified patient care reports, contrary to her employer's policy.

In June 2013 the Nursing Assistant Program entered an agreement with certified nursing assistant **Brandi Lynn Cordova** (NC10091725) that placed her credential on probation for at least two years. Cordova said she would and did forge another worker's signature to falsify medication records. She was seen trying to open a locked medicine cabinet that contained prescription medication. Medication was missing after Cordova insisted on distributing it to patients.

Skagit County

In July 2013 the Emergency Medical Services and Trauma Systems Program charged emergency medical technician **Timothy L. Alvord** (ES01175007) with unprofessional conduct. In 2012 Alvord was convicted of one count of second-degree assault, domestic violence — strangulation, and two counts of violation of no-contact order.

Snohomish County

In May 2013 the Nursing Assistant Program denied a certified nursing assistant credential to **Tatyana Leonidovana Ogorodnik** (NC60294441), who didn't complete a required mental or physical exam.

Spokane County

In June 2013 the Nursing Assistant Program ended probation for registered nursing assistant **Linda M. Graham** (NA00111773).

In July 2013 the Chemical Dependency Professional Program conditionally granted a chemical dependency professional trainee credential to **Andrew Alfred Riddle** (CO60209849) and placed him on probation. Riddle was convicted of six counts of obtaining controlled substance through fraud in 2009.

In July 2013 the Chemical Dependency Professional Program conditionally granted a chemical dependency professional trainee credential to **Larry Frazier Reid** (CO60379273). In 1999 he was convicted in California of possession for sale of a controlled substance — cocaine. In 2003 he was convicted of delivery of a controlled substance — cocaine. In 2006 he was convicted of second-degree assault. In 2007 he was convicted of first-degree robbery and of third-degree assault.

Thurston County

In July 2013 the Nursing Assistant Program charged registered nursing assistant **Tiffany Ann Santiago** (NA60299267) with unprofessional conduct. Santiago allegedly falsified patient records and didn't cooperate with an investigation.

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Yakima County

In July 2013 the Veterinary Board charged veterinarian **Jonathan G. Mercer** (VT00001191) with unprofessional conduct. Mercer allegedly kept inadequate treatment records for four dogs and did incomplete examinations on three of them.

In July 2013 the Osteopathy Board charged osteopathic physician **Michael A. Thomas** (OP00001567) with unprofessional conduct. Before and after undergoing surgery on his own back, Thomas allegedly filled prescriptions for more than 3,200 narcotic pain pills in about eight months. Thomas allegedly operated on a patient while he was impaired, placing the patient's safety at risk. A urine sample allegedly showed he'd used narcotics. The hospital where he did the surgery revoked his privileges.

Out of State

California: In June 2013 the Medical Commission entered an agreement with physician **Mian M. Shah** (MD60010649) that placed his credential on probation. Shah must undergo a psychological evaluation, complete an ethics course and pay a \$2,500 fine. The North Carolina Medical Board denied Shah's application for a license in that state because he misrepresented himself during the application process.

Illinois: In June 2013 the Nursing Assistant Program reinstated the certified nursing assistant credential of **Susan C. Seaman** (NC10056111), who may now practice without restrictions. Seaman's credential was suspended in 2008 following a 2006 third-degree theft conviction.

North Carolina: In June 2013 the Nursing Commission denied a registered nursing credential to **Monica Renee Mosby** (RN60255582). In 2013 the North Carolina Nursing Board suspended Mosby's credential to practice in that state. In 2010 Mosby was convicted in Colorado of driving under the influence of intoxicants.

Virginia: In July 2013 the Medical Commission charged physician assistant **Julius O. Omole** (PA10003858) with unprofessional conduct. The District of Columbia Board of Medicine placed Omole's credential on probation.

Note to Editors: Health care providers charged with unprofessional conduct have 20 days to respond to the Department of Health in writing. The case then enters the settlement process. If no disciplinary agreement can be reached, the case will go to a hearing.

The <u>Department of Health website</u> (www.doh.wa.gov) is your source for *a healthy dose of information*. Also, find us on Facebook and follow us on Twitter.